

The Wobbly Oscillator

Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society

Jul7 2018 Volume 48 Number 7

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION DEMONSTRATION
PUBLIC WELCOME!
"When All Else Fails"

From The Prez

July Picnic Meeting

The July meeting promises to be really special. Matt Nickoson, KC8NZJ, will be doing a presentation on ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service). He is the Cuyahoga County ARES Emergency Coordinator and the Cuyahoga County Skywarn Coordinator. Matt visited our Field Day site and we had the pleasure of speaking with him. It promises to be a very informative program. We will also have the grille flaming for those who wish to picnic at our picnic meeting. Last month we tried to get members in the spirit by grilling some dogs for everyone. There were a lot of takers. So keep it up and bring something to grille and eat.

Field Day-Is it a Contest?

Several times during this year's Field Day the discussion arose as to whether the big event is a contest or an exercise to practice emergency preparedness, demonstrate amateur radio to the public and introduce our hobby to those unfamiliar with it. I've heard the disagreement voiced countless times since my first Field Day almost twenty years ago. The Field Day rules state in the "object" clause "To work as many stations as possible." Sounds like a contest to me. Many participants operate from their home stations using commercial power and amplifiers. Those hams may rack up huge contact numbers whilst not at all concerned with emergency preparation or public demonstration. Almost to a man, our members ask "How'd we do?" They check the results in November and seem really concerned with how we placed. Sounds like contest to me. But the object in the rules also states "learn to operate in abnormal situations in less than optimal conditions." The object further states "to acquaint the general public with the capabilities of Amateur Radio." All the bonus points emphasize public exposure and emergency operating skills. Maybe it's more than a contest. You bet it is. Field Day is the most diversified amateur radio operating extravaganza there is.

So my answer is make Field Day be what you want. If contacts are your goal, go for it. If you want to develop your proficiency at setting up a station under adverse conditions, concentrate on that. If you want to familiarize the general public with the wonders of amateur radio, God bless you. And if you do Field Day with a group or fine club like CARS, experience the enjoyment of companionship of your fellow participants. To me, the last item is what Field Day is all about.

73, Toby, WT8O

Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society
June 12th 2018 Business Meeting Minutes

The CARS membership was called to order by President Toby Kolman, WT8O, at 7:30 PM on the 12th day of the month at the Harriett Keeler Pavilion in the Brecksville Reservation of the Cleveland Metroparks. The Pledge of Allegiance was said and introductions were made by the members and guests. The May 8th 2018 Business meeting minutes were approved as they appeared in the June 2018 *Wobbly Oscillator*.

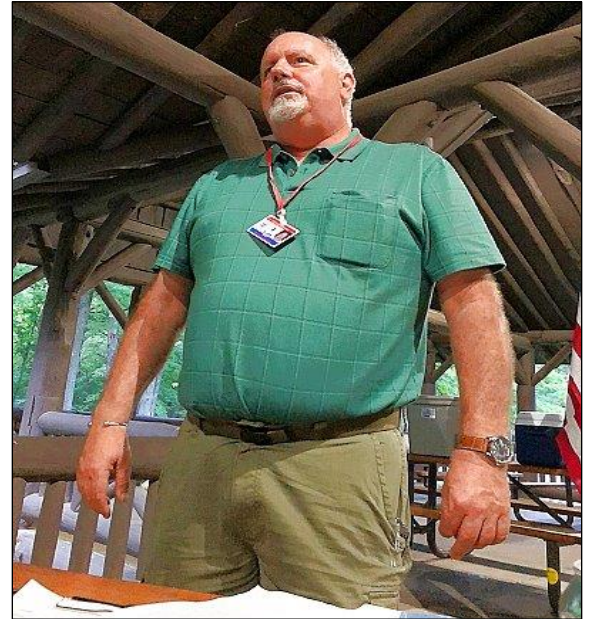
Bob, W8GC, gave the report on the treasury balance.

Toby, WT8O, he will order Field Day shirts from the ARRL that are \$15.

Don't forget about the November sweeps for CW and Phone.

The repeater move is progressing. The Technical Committee is waiting on the receipt of a component then the repeater will be moved.

Mark, WJ8WM, thanked the volunteers who assisted with the Seven Hills Memorial Day parade. Seven Hills will have their Home Days again this year. If the club would like a booth then one would be made available.



Roger Hopp, KE8JWA, was voted in as a NEW CARS member this evening.

Mark, WJ8WM, gave a very informative presentation on grounding at the June meeting.

Public service information for 2018 is available in the *Wobbly Oscillator* as well as the CARS Facebook page. The links will direct you to the appropriate web page for the event.

Bill, KD8QBB, has been working to fill the program schedule for July and August. Let him know if you are interested in doing a presentation.

Time is getting short to activate a Litehouse. Clearance may be required so if you are interested then see Mark Moro.

Toby mentioned that the CARS are not really that active in ARES, Amateur Radio Emergency Service. He thought it might be good if the club participated. More on this next month. Arp, K8ARP, will contact Cuyahoga County ARES for a possible meeting presentation.

Field Day is once again at Calvin Park in Seven Hills. The club will be operating 6 Alpha this year. A safety officer is needed and someone to make a satellite contact. Let Toby know if you are interested.

Toby Thanked the Refreshment Committee for all their work.

(Continued next page)

The next VE session will be July 8th at 9am in the old Elmwood Recreation Center adjacent to Elmwood Pond in Elmwood Park. Metro, W8MET, stated that the VE session on May 13th produced (1) new Technician with (1) new General and (1) new Extra class.

Joe, KD8BAL, won the 50/50 raffle.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 PM.

There were 29 members and guests in attendance this evening.

Mark, WJ8WM, gave a presentation on "Grounding"

Submitted by Larry Shimerka, N8OWS.

Honorary Members

Any person who by nature of outstanding or meritorious contribution to the furtherance of amateur radio and the ideals of the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society

Robert Check, W8GC	Elected 2/10/15
Thomas Wayne, WB8N	Elected 1/10/17
Dwayne Modock, K8ME, SK	Elected 5/9/17
Toby Kolman, WT8O	Elected 10/10/17
Jerry Smith, NW9H	Elected 5/8/18

CW for Field Day Dave, AC8TN

To All Members: Field Day 2018 was a wonderful experience. We made over 300 CW contacts in 24 hours. What we want for Field Day 2019 are more contacts and that means more CW operators. Gaining this skill will help us at Field Day and also enhance your joy of our hobby. We're considering offering a 6 week CW course after the first of the New Year. If you're interested in attending, please call David Korow, AC8TN, at 216-524-6820.

Hamfests Metro, W8MET

July 21 from 8 AM - Noon at the Lorain County Community College, 1005 N. Abbe Rd. in Elyria. Check in on 146.7 PL 110.9. Admission is \$7. Info at noars.net

July 29 from 9: 00 AM - 2:30 PM at the Maplewood Career Center, 7075 State Route 88 in Ravenna. Check in on 145.39. Admission is \$5. Info at hamfair.com

July Birthdays

George Pindroh, KSKR	7/5/42
Jim Bis. NSFND	7/9/45
Arp Viiberg, KSARP	7/12/54
Andrew Andreassen, N6JUB	7/25/50
Bill Savage, WASGEO	7/27/40
Rich Williams, NW8X	7/30/37

Best Field Day Ever Toby, WT8O

This year's Field Day was fantastic. The stations and antennas went up smoothly. Then the heavens opened up. It was a short thunderstorm and the sun came out soon after allowing us to continue the setup details in relative dryness. We ran a Six Alpha effort this year. We had two SSB stations; two digital stations, one on PSK 31 and one on RTTY; a CW station and a multifunction solar powered, FM traffic handling, and satellite station.

Around noon, our star chef Bill, N8BBB, had an awesome lunch ready for all the participants and guests. Bill's cooking ensemble would not have been functional if it weren't for the skilled effort of Mark, WJ8WM, tapping into the power and water available inside the old, condemned recreation center and running electric lines and hoses out the way cool faucet stand he built. Everyone was well fed and some had a little time to rag chew before the 2:00 PM start of operations.

At two o'clock the generators came to life and the antennas heated up with RF. Everything was going well and the contacts flowed in steadily. This year, we were able to achieve the maximum bonus points for Youth Participation; we had eight youngsters make contacts during the afternoon. Meanwhile, Bill was starting dinner.

After the superb dinner Bill single handedly prepared, we had a real honor bestowed on the club. Independence Councilperson Dr. Carl Asseff presented the club with a beautifully designed Proclamation document designating June 17-24, 2018 as Amateur Radio Week in the city of Independence, as declared by Mayor Anthony L. Togliatti. The good doctor spent a good bit of time speaking with the participants and examining the individual stations after the formal presentation of the proclamation.

The radios kept humming away adding more and more contacts as darkness fell on Calvin Park. Night shift operators arrived to man the stations giving the weary crew some welcome relief. The replacements jumped right into action adding contacts to all the stations overnight. Some of those who worked all day went home to rest, some stayed and tried to rest in somewhat uncomfortable conditions. The log continued to grow until the dawn broke through.

With dawn, Bill emerged from his tent, a little worse for the wear, ready to start breakfast. Sunday morning breakfast highlights the CARS Field Day. Nothing rejuvenates the operators who stayed all night more than Bill's cooking. Maybe a little groggy, but always smiling, he fired up his griddle for pancakes and his pan for sausage. At the same time he took orders from the hungry crew for eggs cooked to order. Everything he cooks is restaurant quality.



Councilperson Dr. Carl Asseff presents the proclamation to CARS.

(Continued next page)

Our safety team did a splendid job. They checked everything, marked all hazards, enforced requirements on individual stations and stood by equipped with fire extinguishers, first aid kits and a defibrillator. In the past we suffered cuts, bruises and burns. We even had to call the EMS once. This year there were no incidents due in a large part to the safety team keeping us in line and a lid on the event.

As Sunday wore on, the contact log increased, visitors came and the rain stayed away. Members extended gracious hospitality to interested guests who received explanations to answer their questions. When the lunchtime pizza arrived it was gratifying to see the smiles of the CARS Field Day participants shine through the exhausted faces.

Just before time expired, our star utility player put another feather in his cap. After making the maximum solar contacts, handling the traffic and managing our logging network, Arp, K8ARP, made the difficult look simple by completing a satellite contact with a hand held antenna. Wow! That was the first time we did that in many a year. His excitement bordered on unbridled. What a fantastic job.

The roughest part of Field Day is the dreaded teardown. Carefully packing up expensive equipment, rolling up coax, folding tents, pulling out deeply sunk ground rods, loading everything into vehicles and cleaning up the site becomes a daunting task; especially for those who have been at the site all weekend with little or no sleep. Some guys split after they gather their own gear. The commendable troopers stay to the bitter end when everybody is packed up and ready to drive home. One man deserves special accolades for his well appreciated help. Rich Williams, NW8X, is always there. He enthusiastically lends a hand from setup to teardown, and does it with a smile and a sense of humor. Rich even endeared himself to my granddaughters when they visited Saturday to make youth contacts.

Hats off to all CARS members who participated or attended the 2018 ARRL Field Day; you all made this the Best Field Day ever.



Maddie Kolman makes a contact, sister Molly lends support, Grandpa assists and Scott logs.



Tony, KE8IHP, grills some burgers to perfection.

Contacts

SSB	1,113
PSK 31	258
RTTY	257
CW	312

Bonus points earned – 100 points each

100 % Emergency Power	Message handling
Message to section manager	Satellite QSO
Media publicity	Alternate power
Public location	W1AW Bulletin
Public information table	Educational Activity
Site visitation by elected official	Site visitation of an agency
Field Day Youth Participation	

Peep from the Veep Mark, WJ8WM

What is the Meaning of SOS?

Harmony asks "Do the letters in the term SOS represent three words? If so could you let me know what they are?" Thanks to Neal McEwen for allowing us to use information from his article "SOS", "CQD" and the History of Maritime Distress Calls.



There is much mystery and misinformation surrounding the origin and use of maritime distress calls. Most of the general populace believes that "SOS" signifies "Save Our Ship." Casual students of radio history are aware that the use of "SOS" was preceded by "CQD." Why were these signals adopted? When were they used?

The practical use of wireless telegraphy was made possible by Guglielmo Marconi in the closing years of the 19th century. Until then, ships at sea out of visual range were very much isolated from shore and other ships. The wireless telegraphers used Morse Code to send messages. Morse Code is a way of "tapping" out letters using a series of dots (short signals) and dashes (long signals). Spoken, short signals are referred to as "dih" and long signals are referred to as "dah". The letter "A" is represented by a dot followed by a dash:

● — = A

By 1904 there were many trans-Atlantic British ships equipped with wireless communications. The wireless operators came from the ranks of railroad and postal telegraphers. In England a general call on the landline wire was a "CQ." "CQ" preceded time signals and special notices. "CQ" was generally adopted by telegraph and cable stations all over the world. By using "CQ," each station receives a message from a single transmission and an economy of time and labor was realized. Naturally, "CQ," went with the operators to sea and was likewise used for a general call. This sign for "all stations" was adopted soon after wireless came into being by both ships and shore stations.



In 1904, the Marconi company suggested the use of "CQD" for a distress signal. Although generally accepted to mean, "Come Quick Danger," that is not the case. It is a general call, "CQ," followed by "D," meaning distress. A strict interpretation would be "All stations, Distress."

At the second Berlin Radiotelegraphic Conference 1906, the subject of a danger signal was again addressed. Considerable discussion ensued and finally SOS was adopted. The thinking was that three dots, three dashes and three dots could not be misinterpreted. It was to be sent together as one string.

● ● ● — — — ● ● ●

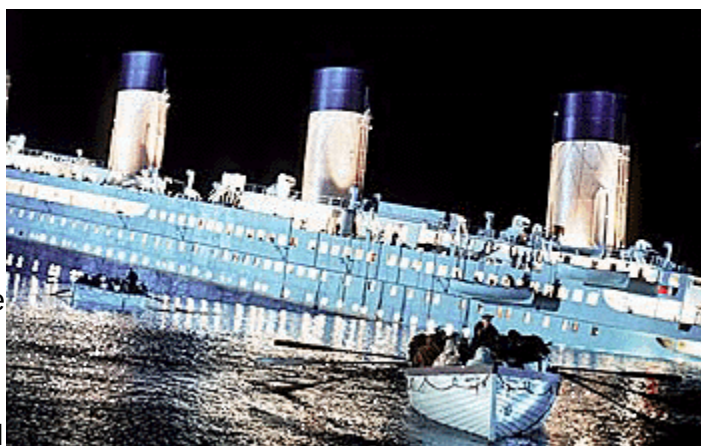
The Marconi Yearbook of Wireless Telegraphy and Telephony, 1918 states, "This signal [SOS] was adopted simply on account of its easy radiation and its unmistakable character. There is no special signification in the letter themselves, and it is entirely incorrect to put full stops between them [the letters]." All the popular interpretations of "SOS," "Save Our Ship," "Save Our Souls," or "Send Out Succour" are simply not valid. Stations hearing this distress call were to immediately cease handling traffic until the emergency was over and were likewise bound to answer the distress signal.



Although the use of "SOS" was officially ratified in 1908, the use of "CQD" lingered for several more years, especially in British service where it originated. It is well documented in personal accounts of Harold Bride, second Radio Officer, and in the logs of the SS Carpathia, that the Titanic first used "CQD" to call for help. When Captain Smith gave the order to radio for help, first radio officer Jack Phillips sent "CQD" six times followed by the Titanic call letters, "MGY." Later, at Bride's suggestion, Phillips interspersed his calls with "SOS." In SOS to the Rescue, 1935, author Baarslag notes, "Although adopted intentionally in 1908, it

[SOS] had not completely displaced the older 'CQD' in the British operators' affections." (It is interesting to observe that Marconi was waiting in New York to return home to England on the Titanic.)

The first recorded American use of "SOS" was in August of 1909. Wireless operator T. D. Haubner of the SS Arapahoe radioed for help when his ship lost its screw near Diamond Shoals, sometimes called the "Graveyard of the Atlantic." The call was heard by the United Wireless station "HA" at Hatteras. A few months later, the SS Arapahoe received an "SOS" distress call from the SS Iroquois. Radio Officer Haubner therefore has the distinction of being involved in the first two incidents of the use of "SOS" in America, the first as the sender and the second as the receiver. The U.S. did not officially adopt "SOS" until 1912, being slow to adopt international wireless standards.



Reprinted from Boatsafe.com

Summer Picnic Andy, KD8SCV

Save Friday, August 3rd, 2018, on your calendars for the annual CARS summer picnic. We'll be serving up plenty of tasty burgers, hot dogs, brats, and side dishes at the Kiwanis Shelter, located behind the Independence Civic Center. Desserts are welcome!

Dinner begins at 6:00 pm, so plan to arrive by 5:30 pm. The picnic is free to all CARS members, their families, and guests. There will be prizes besides the fine array of traditional picnic food. Check the CARS website for more details.

Please RSVP to Andy Evridge, KD8SCV, with the number of guests you expect to bring by Monday, July 30th. His e-mail is aevridge@gmail.com and telephone is 440-886-0723. See you there!

What a Great Field Day

Scott, AC8NW

What a great Field Day! CARS members put on an awesome display of teamwork, problem solving, and operating skill to make it the most productive FD I have been involved with, at least. Several technical threatened to derail things, but all were met and overcome.

The Tech Committee was well represented at FD, with Bob, K8MD, and Mark, KC8ESG, doing a great job keeping the main SSB station rolling and piling up the contacts with long runs at the mic. Mark, WJ8WM, and David, KD8ACO, also performed admirably.

It was great to see the enthusiasm when Arp, K8ARP, finally logged that satellite contact at the last opportunity, and the main SSB station surpass 1000 contacts. And of course, not enough can be said about the members that helped set up and teardown, and made the FD site well presented, well-marked with signage, safe with Hi vis marking and lighting, and well represented to the public. Just a great job all around. Can't wait till next year

THE RANDOM WIRE

Tom Wayne, WB8N

We had successful Field Day once again Gang. To those that came out and participated, or just came out to "observe", Thanks!. I don't know the statistics yet on how many contacts were made by the CARS stations, but they should be up there. CARS ran SSB, CW, and Digital stations, operating from Calvin Park in Seven Hills. Cudos to those that hung in there for the entire FD operating time of 24 hours, from 2:00 PM Saturday to 2:00 PM Sunday. The weather was decent and our own Master Chef, Bill Brown, N8BBB, provided great vitals for everyone that came out to the site. I was out there both days but didn't stay overnight. I loaned my Honda Generator to the club, which powered the digital stations.

We are officially into summer now, and when the weather is dry, it's a good time to do some portable operating. I like to set up on my deck at the back of the house. I have a portable vertical multi-band antenna which I tie up to the deck railing, a small portable HF rig, by Alinco, set up on a small table, and I'm ready to go. I keep a paper log of my contacts. Give it a try. You can operate this way from just about anywhere, providing you have a source of power, which can be commercial or battery power. I'm looking forward to a great summer of outdoor operation myself!

Don't forget, we still have two outdoor meetings to go at the Harriet Keeler Pavilion in the Brecksville Metro Park reservation, just East of Rt. 21 off of Rt. 82, so c'mon out, rain or shine. Bring something to grill, as there will be fire going just outside of the pavilion. For the June meeting in the park CARS provided hot dogs hot off the grill, along with buns and the usual condiments. So c'mon out early and do some grilling! The meeting will begin at 7:30 sharp as usual.

That'll wrap it up for this month Cuzzes. Catch ya'll on the air (I'm always listening to the CARS frequency of 146.82 when I'm mobile. I always throw out "This WB8N, listening on 146.82") and/or on the CARS weekly net, which, for those who don't know is at 9:00 PM every Wednesday.

CARS June 5th, 2018 BOD Minutes

The CARS Board of Directors was called to order by Chairman Andy Evrdge, KD8SCV, at 6:30 PM on the 5th day of the month at the Independence Library.

Meeting Attendees were:

Bob, W8GC
Mark, WJ8WM
Toby, WT8O
Andy, KD8SCV
Larry, N8OWS
Ed, WB8ROK
Mike, KD8OUE
Arp, K8ARP
Terry, KB8DTC



A graphic titled "July Net Sched" with a blue and white patterned background. It contains a table of net dates for the month of July.

JUL	4	WT8O
JUL	11	AC8NW
JUL	18	KD8OUE
JUL	25	NI8Z

The following items were discussed and action taken noted.

1. **Purchase DVD's from ARRL for Business meeting program backup.** Bob, W8GC, has DVD's that the club can use. YouTube has some good content as well if you know where to look. Bob will send Toby a list of the DVDs' he has. **No Action Taken.**
2. **Get a credit card for the Club for small purchases.** Bob, W8GC, stated the club never needed one in the first place. A Debit card was discussed as well. Who will hold it? It would be convenient but receipts would still need to be given to Bob. The card might get used 3 times per year? Bank statements would need to be reconciled as well. **No Action Taken.**
3. **Have the club pay for a cookout at the June 12th Business meeting in the Metroparks.** Toby, WT8O, stated that very few people cook out before the Business meetings in the park. He figured maybe \$10-\$20 dollars for hotdogs, plates etc. A motion was made by Bob, W8GC, and seconded by Arp, K8ARP, to purchase the hotdogs and other condiments for a cookout in the park for the June Business meeting only with a maximum of \$50. **The Motion Passed.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM

Submitted by Larry Shimerka, N8OWS

VE Session July 8, 2018 Metro, W8MET

To upgrade your current license, or if you know anyone that wants a Ham radio license, the next CARS VE session is July 8, 2018 at 9:00 AM. Go to our website for info: www.2cars.org

Technician Pool Update Metro, W8MET

Effective July 1, 2018 a new Element 2 Technician class question pool will take effect for examinations. A total of 423 questions are in the pool.

Metro's Picks

ON-THE-AIR

July 1, 0000-2359 1.8-144 RAC Canada Day Contest CW Ph wp.rac.ca

July 2, 0001-July 8, 2359 10-10 International Spirit of 76 QSO Party 28 only CW Ph Dig www.ten-ten.org

July 7, 0000-0400 3.5-28 FISTS Summer Slow Speed Sprint for CW only fistsna.org

July 7, 1400-July 8, 1400 1.8-28 Marconi Memorial HF Contest CW www.arifano.it

July 7, 1500-July 8, 1500 3.5-14 Original QRP Contest CW www.qrpcc.de/contestrules

July 9, 0000-0200 1.8-28 4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint CW Ph www.4sgrp.com

July 14,1200-July 15,1200 1.8-28 IARU HF World Championship CW Ph www.arrl.org/laru-hf-championship

July 21, 1800-July 22, 0559 3.5-28 North American QSO Party RTTY Dig www.ncjweb.com

July 21, 1800-July 22, 1200 50 144 CQ Worldwide VHF Contest CW Ph Dig www.cqww-vhf.com

Special Events Stations

13 Colonies

This is your chance to work the 13 colonies this 4th of July. <http://www.13colonies.net/>

Lighthouse

July 14-22 at 0000-0000 W2NMY will be operating from New York to honor the USS San Diego. www.gsbarc.org

Participating is FUN, FUN, FUN...ENJOY!

Info from QST July 2018 Pg. 83 and 97 - All times in GMT ZULU time

The *Wobbly Oscillator* is a publication of the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society, P.O. Box 31264, Independence, Ohio, 44131-0264. Articles from this publication may be reprinted in any ham radio publication, provided that credit is given this publication and the author, if known. All submissions should be emailed to: wt8o@att.net by the end of the month for publication in the next month's issue.

13th ANNUAL CARS PICNIC

SAVE THE DATE: Friday August 3, 2018 will be the CARS annual picnic. We will again be in the **Kiwanis Pavilion** behind the Independence Civic Center, (see the picture below). We will serve hamburgers, hotdogs, brats, potato salad, Cole slaw plus all the trimmings.

Desserts are welcome! Feel free to bring one.

There will be a check-in on 146.820 with prizes starting at 5:00pm. There will be several door prizes for the winners of our drawings.

The picnic is FREE to all CARS members, family & friends! All we ask is you tell us how many will be coming on or before Monday July 30th. Arrive anytime after 5:30pm to eat about 6:00pm.

We need to know how many will be coming PLEASE Email your numbers to Andy, KD8SCV at: aevridge@gmail.com or call 440-886-0723 ASAP!



CARS 2018 Officers & Committees

Audit

WJ8WM ** WT8O, KD8OUE

Audio/Video

AC8NW **

ARRL Liaison

WJ8WM **

Awards

W8GC ** WT8O

Christmas party & Summer Picnic

KD8SCV **, WJ8WM, K8ARP

Club Photographer

N8OWS **

Field Day

WT8O **, WJ8WM, K8RGI, K8ARP, KD8SCV, AC8NW, AC8TN, N8BBB food

Find a Club Station location

K8KR** NI8Z

50/50

WT8O

License classes

KD8ACO **, WT8O, K8SHB

Media Representative

KD8SCV

Membership

WT8O **

NET

WT8O **

Newsletter

WT8O ** 440-525-6109
wt8o@att.net

Programs at Meetings

KD8QBB **

Property Custodian's

KB8DTC records, W8GC equipment

Public Services

K8ARP **

QSL Manager - W8HBI, W8BM

WB8N **

Refreshments at Meetings & Picnic

WB8ROK ** pop, N8OWS ** coffee, NW8X ** eat's

Scholarship

W8GC ** WJ8WM, KD8SCV, N8OWS, WB8N

Sunshine (welfare)

Andy, KD8SCV ** 440-886-0723

Technical

AC8NW ** N8OVW, WJ8WM, KD8ACO, KD8RKF, K8MD, KB8DTC

VE Exams

Metro, W8MET ** 216-520-1320

Web Master/e-mail

W8GC **

** chairman or co-chairman

2018 Officers

PRESIDENT

Toby Kolman WT8O 440-525-6109
wt8o@att.net

VICE-PRESIDENT

Mark Moro, WJ8WM 216-661-0342

SECRETARY

Larry Shimerka, N8OWS 216-647-2484

TREASURER:

Bob Check W8GC 216-524-1750

Board Members & License Trustees

Board Chairman

Andy Evridge KD8SCV 440-886-0723

even year executive board 2 year term

K8SHB, KB8DTC, KD8OUE

odd year executive board 2 year term

KD8SCV, K8ARP, WB8ROK

License trustee K8ZFR

WT8O

License trustee

W8HBI, W8BM,
W8GC



June 1, 2018